

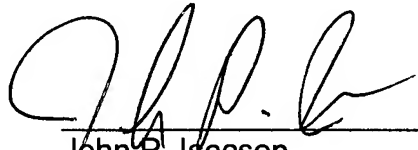
REMARKS

Applicants have canceled claims 1-123 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein, and applicants expressly reserve all rights to such subject matter. Applicants have added claims 124-127, which are copied from or closely paraphrase claims from U.S. Patent No. 6,562,540 (the '540 patent) to Saum *et al.*, which issued May 13, 2003 (copy enclosed). Claims 124-127 correspond respectively to claims 1, 16, 20, and 26 of the '540 patent. Upon entry of this amendment, claims 124-127 will be pending.

By filing of this application and preliminary amendment, applicants have fully complied with the requirements of 35 USC § 135(b)(1) since the claims are being copied less than one year after issuance of the '540 patent. Applicants request examination of the claims. A first office action on the merits is awaited.

Respectfully submitted,

October 30, 2003
Date



John P. Isacson
Reg. No. 33,715

HELLER EHRMAN WHITE & MCAULIFFE LLP
1666 K Street, N.W., Suite 300
Washington, D.C. 20006
Phone: 202-912-2000
Fax: 202-912-2020
Customer No. 26633